

# AITD Conference 2026

13-15 May 2026 | Brisbane, QLD

## Wednesday 13 May: Pre-Conference Workshop

	Registration and Speaker Support Open		12:00 - 4:00 PM
12:00 PM	Lunch - Lobby		(60 mins)
	Room: Ballroom Le Grand 3		
1:00 PM	Workshop Introduction Ben Campbell   AITD, CEO (5 mins)		
1:05 PM	Welcome to Country Professor Benny Wilson (5 mins)		
1:10 PM	Workshop Plenary 1: Winning at Work: Lessons from the Olympic Arena Bo Hanson   Athlete Assessments & Team8 People (45 mins)		
2:00 PM	Move to next session		
	Room: Ballroom Le Grand 3	Room: Ballroom Le Grand 1	
2:05 PM	AITD Capability Framework in Action Michelle Ockers   Learning Uncut (45 mins)	The Capability Playbook for an AI-Enabled Workforce, How L&D can redesign systems, not just skills Beth Hall   Culture Edge (45 mins)	
2:50 PM	Afternoon Break - Lobby		(30 mins)
	Room: Ballroom Le Grand 3	Room: Ballroom Le Grand 1	
3:20 PM	No Time to Wait: Building Agile Generalist Competencies in a Rapidly Changing Technological Landscape Rachel Kerrigan   Future Skills Organisation (45 mins)	The power of presence: Amplifying authority in moments that matter Anneli Blundell   Anneliblundell.com (45 mins)	
4:05 PM	Move to next session		
	Room: Ballroom Le Grand 3		
4:10 PM	Workshop Plenary 2: The Science of Change: new developments and strategies Britt Andreatta   Brain Aware Training (50 mins)		
4:55 PM	Workshop Close		
5:30 PM	AITD Conference Welcome Gathering Bar Pacino, 175 Eagle St, Brisbane City		5:30 - 7:30 PM

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### Thursday 14 May: Conference Day One

	Registration and Speaker Support Open		8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
8:00 AM	Fellows Breakfast Gathering and Emerging Practitioners Breakfast		8:00 AM - 8:45 AM
	Plenary Session 1: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3		
	MC: Leigh Muirhead		
9:00 AM	Welcome to Day One (10 mins)		
9:10 AM	The Honourable Ros Bates MP Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training (10 mins)		
9:20 AM	Brain-Based Strategies for Creating Engaging Learning Britt Andreatta   Brain Aware Training (45 mins)		
10:05 AM	Panel Discussion 1 - When Learning Meets Reality: The Neuroscience of Sustaining Focus, Adaptability and Performance Panel Members: Anna Pitman, Loretta Mitchell, Paula Johnston, Britt Andreatta (45 mins)		
10:50 AM	Morning Break - Ballroom Lobby		(30 mins)
	Concurrent Session 1: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3		Concurrent Session 1: Ballroom Le Grand 1
11:20 AM	Social Learning at Scale: How the Australian Public Service is transforming leadership and management development at all levels using cohort-based social technology powered by technology Kristin Boag   APSC (25 mins)		Teams and Team Roles in the Age of AI Talan Miller   Belbin Australia (25 mins)
11:45 AM	Move to next session		
11:50 AM	Facilitating Learning Through Co-Production: Reflections From Facilitator and Learner in the STEM-INSIGHTS Capability Enhancer Initiative Chelsea Cheney   AAS Cassandra Grant   CSIRO (25 mins)		Unlocking Collective Intelligence: An Immersive Workshop in Creative Problem Solving Gergana David   Big Bloom (25 mins)
12:15 PM	Move to next session		
12:20 PM	Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) VET Blueprint Project - 'Build a Future Ready Workforce' Michelle Holden   CIT (25 mins)		Capability at Scale: How to Build High-Impact Learning for Frontline, Operational and Dispersed Workforces Sue Borhan   Cater Care (25 mins)
12:45 PM	Move to next session		
12:50 PM	10x Capability: Amplifying Skills, Accelerating Growth, and Staying Agile in Complex Organisations Dr Maria Montesano   Department Of Defence (25 mins)		Strategic Capability Mapping: Embedding Leadership and Technical Frameworks for Organisational Impact Kathleen Gaynor   OD Consulting (25 mins)
1:15 PM	Lunch - Ballroom Lobby		(60 mins)

Sessions and timings are subject to change.

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# PROGRAM

## Thursday 14 May: Conference Day One Cont..

### Concurrent Session 2: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3

### Concurrent Session 2: Ballroom Le Grand 1

2:15 PM

**High-Impact Learning Video: Evidence-Based Strategies for Engagement**  
James Foulds | Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (25 mins)



**Is 'Just-in-Time' the future of work? Why L&D have the opportunity to lead the next workforce shift**  
Amanda Behre | Dear Thrive  
Francesca Dove | elan hr (25 mins)



2:40 PM

Move to next session

2:45 PM

**Building AI Literacy Through Practice: How L&D Teams Can Learn by Doing**  
Dr Natalie Francis | Department of Defence (25 mins)



**Behind the Curtain: Diagnosing the Hidden Dynamics that Make or Break Capability and Organisational Change**  
Gabrielle Harris | Interchange (25 mins)



3:10 PM

Move to next session

3:15 PM

**Beyond 'Learning in the Flow': Designing Work as the Engine of Learning**  
Kestrel Stone | Elemental Projects (25 mins)



**Coaching at the Core: Transforming Learning in High-Turnover Care Environment**  
Leah Asensio | Hammondcare (25 mins)



3:40 PM

Afternoon Break - Ballroom Lobby

(30 mins)

### Plenary Session 2: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3

4:10 PM

**Panel Discussion 2 - What the Evidence Shows: Applied Research on Learning Quality, Engagement and Decision-Making**  
Panel Members: Beth Hall, Deniese Cox, Dr Samantha Rush, Dr Chris Campbell (45 mins)

4:55 PM

Day One Close

5:30 PM

Networking Drinks - Ballroom Lobby

5:30 - 7:00 PM

7:00 PM

AITD Excellence Awards Dinner - Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3

7:00 - 10:30 PM

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### Friday 15 May: Conference Day Two

	AITD State Breakfasts		7:30 AM - 8:30 AM
	Registration and Speaker Support Open		8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
	Plenary Session 3: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3		
	MC: Leigh Muirhead		
9:00 AM	Welcome to Day Two (5 mins)		
9:05 AM	Inspirational Story Hayley Lewis   OAM (45 mins)		
9:50 AM	Panel Discussion 3 - Evaluating What Matters: Rethinking Learning Impact in an AI-Enabled, Human-Centred Workplace Panel Members: Sue Borhan, Andrew Beveridge, Natalie Francis, Dr Denise Meyerson (45 mins)		
10:35 AM	Morning Break - Ballroom Lobby		(30 mins)
	Concurrent Session 3: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3		Concurrent Session 3: Ballroom Le Grand 1
11:05 AM	The Solo L&D Lead: Building Capability Without a Team Simone Ainsworth   ABC (25 mins)	Clarity in the Middle: How Middle Managers Resolve Role Ambiguity and Lead with Confidence Sally Foley-Lewis   Sally Foley-Lewis (25 mins)	
11:30 AM	Move to next session		
11:35 AM	Meeting Employees Where They're At: Changing How We Consume Learning in the Modern Age Téa Angelos   Vivlo Learning (25 mins)	Pros vs Cons: Choosing the Right Learning Solution for Your Context Trinity Ryan and Cathy Saunders   Qld Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety (25 mins)	
12:00 PM	Move to next session		
12:05 PM	X Factor: Unleash Your Secret Superpower Yamini Naidu   Yamini Naidu Consulting (25 mins)	The Identity Trap: Why Self-Leadership Is the Missing Link in Transformation Glin Bayley   SimplyGlin (25 mins)	
12:35 PM	Move to next session		
12:35 PM	Visual storytelling secrets: Effective PowerPoint design tactics for facilitators Cameron Pegg   Communication Skills Academy (25 mins)	How to collaboratively design and develop accredited training to support the energy transition in QLD Brian Inglis   Inglis Consultants Pty Ltd (25 mins)	
1:00 PM	Extended Lunch and Networking (Meet the Presenter) - Ballroom Lobby		(70 mins)

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### Friday 15 May: Conference Day Two Cont..

#### Concurrent Session 4: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3

2:10 PM

The learners we never get to meet: Building practitioner capability to support motivated learners who are stuck outside our digital doors  
**Dr Deniese Cox | Teachingonline.com.au (25 mins)**



#### Concurrent Session 4: Ballroom Le Grand 1

Small Levers, Big Impact: Decoding and Cultivating Your Learning Culture  
**Hannah Ryan | Versent (25 mins)**



2:35 PM

Move to next session

2:40 PM

Presence to Power: Building Leadership Capability in Post-Institutional Workplaces  
**Madeline Miller | Coaching With Madeline (25 mins)**



Cultivating Curiosity: The Leadership Capability AI Cannot Replace  
**Dr Hayley Linthwaite | Performance Frontiers (25 mins)**



3:05 PM

Move to next session

3:10 PM

Creating ICONIC Learning Experiences  
**Marc Ratcliffe | MRWED Training and Assessment (25 mins)**



Less Communities of Practice, More Communities of Purpose  
**Kylie Sturday and Darryn Gray | Crackin'LnD (Down Under)(25 mins)**



3:35 PM

Move to next session

#### Plenary Session 4: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3

3:40 PM

Panel Discussion 4 - Creativity That Delivers: Turning Imagination into Action in Complex Systems  
**Panel Members: Dr Cathryn Lloyd, Jina Hardy, Nigel Collin, (45 mins)**

4:25 PM

Conference Wrap Up

4:35 PM

Conference Close